

## PATENT SPECIFICATION

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## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

## Improvements in or relating to Foot-rests for use in Treating the Human Foot.

We, BELDAN-WERKE MASCHINEN UND APPARATEFABRIK, AKTIENGESellschaft, of 7-10, Silberstr., Nurnberg, Germany, a German Company, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

5 This invention relates to an improved foot-rest, intended for use in the surgical and cosmetic treatment of the human foot and constructed in accordance with the special requirements for such treatment.

10 During the treatment of the human foot it is usual for the operator to support the patient's foot on his knee while performing the treatment. This is generally inconvenient to the operator, as he is compelled to stoop during his work, and also unpleasant for the patient owing to the feeling of insecurity of the support. Under these conditions the foot tends to slip or change its position and necessitates being held by the hand of the operator. The foot being treated thus becomes overheated much to the discomfort of the patient. This manner of treatment is also not hygienic, even when the operator spreads a towel over his knees before placing the patient's foot thereon owing to the proximity of the limbs or body of the operator and the patient's foot. By using the foot-rest constructed in accordance with this invention these drawbacks are avoided; the operator's work is facilitated and the treatment of the foot is rendered more comfortable for the patient. The general idea of the use of a foot-rest for this purpose is, however, not regarded as a part of the invention, which, on the contrary, lies in the special construction of the foot-rest. This construction should comply with the following requirements, which have been noted in the course of observations made in actual practice. The operator must be able to take up two positions in regard to the foot to be treated:—

45 A.) If the sole of the foot is to be treated then the operator sits opposite the patient and they face each other.

50 B.) If the top of the foot is to be treated then the operator sits by the side of the

patient and they face the same direction and the patient's leg lies close to the operator's hip. 55

The difficulty is to find a support for the patient's foot without stressing or necessitating the use of the operator's knees. The knees of a medium sized man in a sitting position are from 50 to 55 cm above the floor, whether he be sitting upon a chair with a seat of the usual height or upon a low chair or footstool. The operator does his work in a slightly bent forward position with his elbow turned inwards and the patient's leg, which rests upon the operator's hip, must pass under one of the operator's arms. The arm-pit of an average sized man sitting upon a chair in a slightly bent forward position is about 90 cm above the level of the floor and the toes of a foot resting upon the heel with the legs stretched out horizontally or approximately so, are from 20 to 25 cm above the supporting surface. Thus it becomes necessary to place a plate, intended to support the heel of the patient's foot in such a position that the lower side lies close above the operator's knee, that is to say at approximately 55 cm above the floor. Now if, however, there be assumed to be a small table having this height,—but which must not have any closing edge—and if the operator be imagined as sitting in the position B, then he can only stand up with difficulty and annoyance to the patient, because he must first of all push back his own seat or chair, in order to withdraw his knees from underneath the table. It is just as difficult if not more difficult, for the operator to occupy his working position. For the position A the discomfort is somewhat diminished because on occupying or taking his place the patient is not interfered with. From these observations it was gathered that the operator must be afforded the possibility of turning on his seat to withdraw his knees laterally from under the foot-rest. 100

According to the invention there is provided a combined foot-rest and operator's seat for use in the treatment of the human foot in which the foot-rest is 105

arranged on a column above the floor so that the knees of a seated operator can be disposed under the patient's foot without having to form a support therefor, and  
 5 having a stay bracket connected at one end with the column and resting at the other end on the floor and so arranged as to resist any tilting moment exerted by the patient's foot on the foot rest and the  
 10 column forming a stand therefor, the end of the stay bracket opposite to that connected with the column of the foot-rest being formed as the underframe of a seat for the operator. The underframe part of  
 15 the stay bracket may be hinged to the other part which may be in two parts hinged together and also hinged to the column.

In order that the said invention may be clearly understood and readily carried into effect, the same will now be more fully described by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawing in which a perspective illustration is given  
 20 of one form of apparatus according to the invention.

The foot-rest 1, comprising a board 2 and a cushion 3 is provided with a tray 4, and is adjustably carried on a rod 5  
 30 extending transversely from the upper end 6 of the stand or column. The stand consists of a lower part 7 telescopically fitted with an upper part 8 which is free to rotate in the lower part 7 and adapted  
 35 to be secured at varying heights above the floor by means of a clamping ring 9. By this means the position of the foot-rest 1 can be adjusted. To the lower part of the stand is attached the stay bracket 10.  
 40 This consists of a part 13 rotatably mounted on the lower part 7 of the stand, hinge sockets 11 and 12, a part 14 connected at one end by means of the hinge 15 to the part 13 and provided at the other  
 45 end with hinge sockets 16 and 17 for attachment to a screw threaded spindle 20 on which the seat 19 of the operator is mounted. Between the sockets 16 and 17 is disposed a hub 21 fitted with legs 18  
 50 for constituting a three legged lower frame for the operator's seat. The screw threaded spindle 20 is adjustable relatively to the hub 21 for enabling the height of the seat to be varied. The  
 55 upper part 8 of the stand has mounted on it a plate 22 which serves for holding instruments, medicaments and the like. The hinged connections between the parts 7 and 13, 13 and 14 and 14 and 18 are not

essential, but they facilitate adjusting the seat 19 to the most convenient position for the operator relatively to the patient's foot, without the necessity of altering the adjustment of the foot support 1. In thus connecting the parts together the  
 60 apparatus is adapted to be folded together for storage or other purposes.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of our said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, we declare that what we  
 70 claim is:—

1. A combined foot-rest and operator's seat for use in the treatment of the human foot in which the foot-rest is  
 75 arranged on a column above the floor so that the knees of a seated operator can be disposed under the patient's foot without having to form a support therefor and having a stay bracket connected at one  
 80 end with the column and resting at the other end on the floor and so arranged as to resist any tilting moment exerted by the patient's foot on the foot-rest and the column forming a stand therefor, the end  
 85 of the stay bracket opposite to that connected with the column of the foot-rest being formed as the underframe of a seat for the operator.

2. A combined foot-rest and operator's seat as in claim 1, in which the stay bracket comprises two or more parts which are connected with each other by hinge  
 90 joints, for the purpose specified.

3. A combined foot-rest and operator's seat as in claim 1 or 2, in which the underframe is connected to the other part of the stay bracket by a hinge joint.

4. A combined foot-rest and operator's seat as in any one of the preceding  
 100 claims, characterised by the fact that the column of the foot-rest has fitted to it a plate or tray for carrying instruments, medicaments and the like.

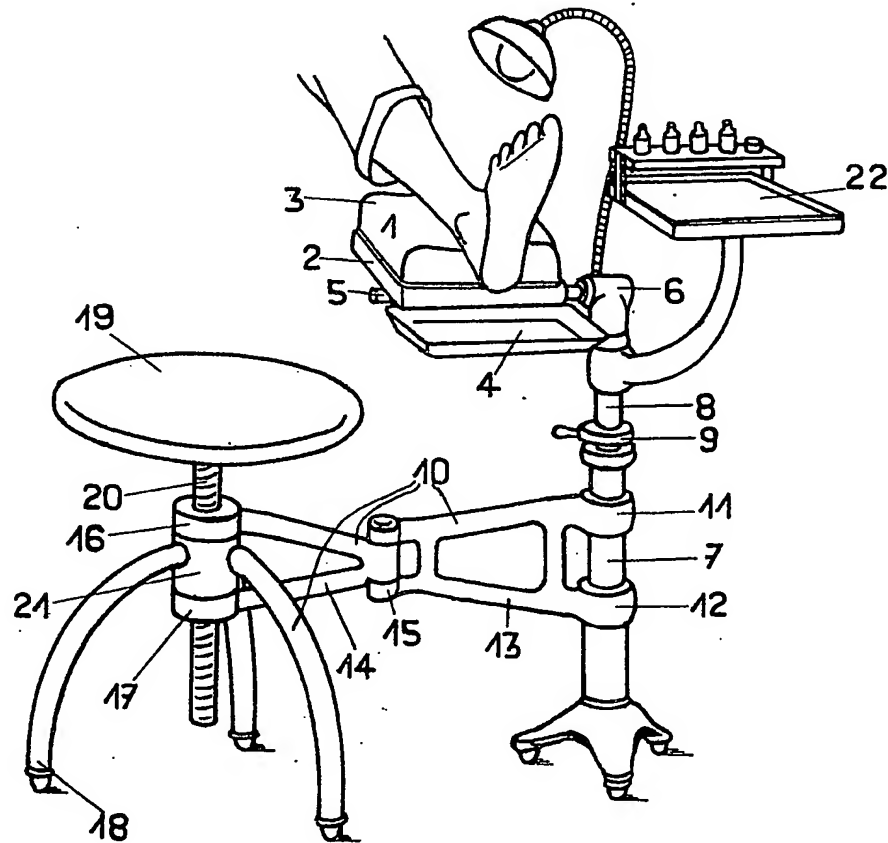
5. A combined foot-rest and operator's  
 105 seat for use in the treatment of the human foot constructed, arranged and adapted for use substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 27th day of May, 1929.

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Agents for the Applicants.

[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]



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